DECEMBER 1981
Number 82–3

statistical reporter

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

statistical reporter

Prepared Monthly by the Statistical Policy Branch, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

CONTENTS

Page	
53	Arguments for and Against a Decentralized Federal Statistical System
62	Changing the Treatment of Shelter Costs for Homeowners in the Consumer Price Index
70	Current Developments
70	Historical GNP Detail Now Available
70	Measurement of Subjective Phenomena
71	1978 Census of Agriculture Data
71	Subject Index to Current Population Reports
72	Recent Social Security Bulletin Reports
72	Bibliography of International Social Security Research
72	Characteristics of SSI Beneficiaries
73	SSI Beneficiaries by State and County
73	Recent Justice Statistics Reports
73	FRB Seasonal Adjustment Report
73	Statistics of Income Bulletin, Fall 1981
74	Statistics of Income and Related Administrative Record Research
74	Workshop Covering Integrated Data Bases
74	Workshop on Nonprofit and Pension Statistics
75	1982 Statistical Workshop and Seminar Program Announced
76	Personnel Note
77	Schedule of Release Dates for Principal Federal Economic Indicators

SUBSCRIPTIONS ($26.00 a year) should be sent to the Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Make checks payable to the Superintendent of Documents.

SUGGESTIONS, contributions, and inquiries may be addressed to: Statistical Reporter, Statistical Policy Branch, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503.

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

David A. Stockman
Director

Christopher DeMuth
Administrator for Information and Regulatory Affairs

Joseph W. Duncan
Chief Statistician, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

Suzann K. Evinger
Editor, Statistical Reporter

STATISTICAL REPORTER is prepared primarily for the interchange of information among Government employees engaged in statistical and research activities. Views expressed in contributed notes or articles do not necessarily reflect the policy or opinions of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sources and availability are shown for each publication and requests should be made to the source indicated. If "GPO" is shown, order from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Pamela Powell-Hill, *Chairman*
Office of Management and Budget

Richard J. Schrimper
Department of Agriculture

Roger A. Herriot
Department of Commerce
Census Bureau

Henry Lowenstern
Bureau of Labor Statistics

Berdj Kenadjian
Internal Revenue Service

Albert Mindlin
D.C. Government

Richard E. Schmidt
Department of Health and Human Services

Robert M. Fisher
Federal Reserve Board

Arguments for and Against a Decentralized Federal Statistical System *

By Joseph W. Duncan

Chief Statistician, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget

And

Theodore Clemence

Senior Advisor
Bureau of the Census
U.S. Department of Commerce

Introduction

The organizational arrangements for producing statistics are highly decentralized in the United States. The Federal statistical system is composed of several statistical collection and analytical agencies and of many statistical units, statistical activities and outputs within major program agencies.

Early in the study program of the President's Reorganization Project on Federal Statistics, it was determined that the focus of analysis would be on the planning and coordination function, rather than on topics of reorganizing or combining components of the Federal statistical system. The recommendations of the President's Reorganization Project have not been implemented, and the issues of the overall organization of Federal statistical agencies merits continued attention. At the 1980 Annual Meeting of the International Association for Social Science Service and Technology (IASSIST), a session presented arguments for and against a decentralized Federal statistical system. This article is a synthesis of the ideas expressed at that session. It will first present an historical perspective of the development of the Federal statistical system and indicate some important organizational reviews that have taken place during the past several decades. Then, it will discuss the relative merits of a decentralized vs. a centralized Federal statistical system, and suggest a model for a more centralized system.

The Impact of the "Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980"

While this paper is a synthesis of the ideas presented at the IASSIST session in May 1980, it is important to relate these ideas to the actions of the 96th Congress and the President. The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Public Law 96–511, provided for the transfer of the Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards to the Office of Management and Budget. This return of statistical policy functions to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) was finally completed in August 1981 with the establishment of the Statistical Policy Branch within the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs.

*The views expressed in this paper do not necessarily reflect the views of the Office of Management and Budget and the Bureau of the Census.

Editor's Note: As reported in the September 1981 issue of *Statistical Reporter*, the statistical policy function has been recently transferred to the Office of Management and Budget. This article is not presented as a judgment on the current organizational arrangements. Rather, it is presented in the context of current discussions about statistical policy activities.

(See the September 1981 issue of *Statistical Reporter* for details on this transfer of functions.)

While this legislation returned the statistical policy function to the Executive Office of the President, it did not fully implement the recommendations of the President's Reorganization Project on Federal Statistics, which was under the direction of James Bonnen (see *Statistical Reporter,* May 1980). For example, the staff resources have not been increased. In fact, because of the many other responsibilities of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, it has been difficult not to divert the resources of the statistical policy unit from long-range planning and coordination of statistical programs to short-run response to more immediate issues being addressed by the office. The legislation does not provide the independence recommended for an independent Office of Statistical Policy in the Executive Office of the President. Also, the unit within OMB does not have the same level of status which would be perceived for an independent office.

It should be noted that there are important potential benefits to location of the statistical policy function in the Office of Management and Budget, especially within the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. The leverage of actions and policy development within P.L. 96–511 can be very great. The influence of this new function in OMB involves important considerations of rulemaking, data processing policy, and records management (among other responsibilities) which are of special importance to the development of government statistics. Further, since this new function is destined to be at the center of governmental policy, the related statistical policy issues are likely to receive more high-level attention than has ever been the case in the recent past.

It should be noted, however, that under both the independent office (the Bonnen proposal) or the location of statistical policy in the Office of Management and Budget, there remain many questions about mechanisms for assuring cooperation among various components of the statistical system. In fact, many of the basic issues of centralization vs. decentralization remain. Thus, this article is intended to set forth some of the basic issues which need to be addressed in further strengthening the coordination of the Federal statistical system.

Historical Perspective

> Practically every bureau in Washington collects or disseminates statistics of one kind or another; and there is much confusion in the public mind concerning the work done by the various offices.
>
> The statistics collected by the Government relate to nearly every aspect of our economic and social life. Statistics of agriculture begin with the seed and follow through the marketing of the ripened product. Statistics of manufacturers extend from the mining of crude ore to the production of the manufactured article; those of commerce, from the lighting of rivers and harbors to the consumption of imported commodities; and those of social relationships from a mere enumeration of population to elaborate data regarding the incidences of disease.[1]

This quotation, though written in 1922, still serves to describe both the range of information collected and the limited public understanding of the purposes of these data-gathering efforts. Regardless of the definition of "agency" and "statistics," it is clear there are large numbers of separate and distinct organizations producing statistics within the Federal Government. If a statistical management expert were required to create a Federal statistical system for the United States in 1981, assuming no past statistical activity, it is doubtful that he would design the sprawling monster that now exists. It has been estimated that as many as 108 Federal agencies are authorized to collect, compile, and disseminate statistical data.[2]

How did these data collection activities begin? People sometimes erroneously believe that Government agencies established for other purposes have launched statistical programs in an effort to perpetuate or expand themselves. This

[1] United States, Bureau of Efficiency, *Report on the Statistical Work of the United States Government,* submitted to the Congress, September 7, 1922, p. 1.

[2] An estimate developed by the Office of Management and Budget in 1976 by examining agency requests for the collection of statistical information.

is not so, as is indicated by the following examples of legislation requiring statistical activities.

The first legislation calling for Federal statistical activity, the Constitution of the United States, required an enumeration of the population within 3 years after the first meeting of the Congress and every 10 years thereafter. This was the origin of regular statistical work. Thomas Jefferson supervised the first census in 1790 as Secretary of State. Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury, issued America's first statistical publication, reporting the population and foreign commerce in 1790. For a century, the census office was phased out after its decennial activity, but subsequent legislation and responsibilities gradually closed the gap between censuses, and the Census Bureau was established as a permanent agency in 1902.

The Director of the Census was "authorized and directed to collect and publish, for every second year after 1927, statistics of manufacturing industries."[3] In 1929, it was decreed that "a census of population, irrigation, drainage, distribution, unemployment, and mines shall be taken by the Director of the Census in the year 1930 and every 10 years thereafter."[4] In fact, one requirement was remarkably detailed:

> The Director of the Bureau of the Census is authorized and directed to collect and publish statistics concerning the number of squares of red-cedar shingles produced in shingle manufacturing establishments in the United States; the quantity of Canadian produced red-cedar shingles stored in U.S. warehouses and subsequently withdrawn therefrom; and the current imports of red-cedar shingles from Canada.... The statistics as to the number of squares of shingles .... shall relate to each calendar month and shall be published as soon as possible after the close of the month.[5]

Statutory requirements for agricultural statistics were first established in 1862.[6] In 1927, the Secretary of Agriculture was directed to collect annual statistics and to publish his estimates of grades and staple length of cotton of the then current crop.[7] In 1929, detailed statistics about tobacco were also authorized.[8]

In 1888, the Bureau of the Labor Statistics received its legislative mandate as follows:

> ...to acquire and to diffuse among the people of the United States useful information on subjects connected with labor .... and especially upon its relation to capital, the hours of labor, the earnings of laboring men and women, and the means of promoting their materials, social, and intellectual, and moral prosperity.[9]

The above examples serve to indicate that Federal statistical programs often originate in congressional legislation. In fact, the economic and social history of this country could probably be traced around the statistical programs that have emerged sequentially through legislation, particularly when statistical activities associated with program administration are also taken into account. A notable example is the collection of statistics related to the various social security programs.

This legislative process of generating a Federal statistical system has given the United States the best statistical coverage in the world, but the efficiency of this decentralized system has been challenged periodically during the last several decades, and has been the subject of numerous reviews. The following gives brief details on some of the studies that have been made of the Federal statistical system.

Bureau of Efficiency.—As a result of an act of Congress on March 1, 1919, the Bureau of Efficiency investigated duplication of statistical work in the various branches of the Government service and the scope and character of statistics needed by Government and the methods of collecting, compiling, and presenting statistical information by the several executive departments and independent government establishments.

The Bureau of Efficiency prepared the first descriptive report of the scope and character of the statistical output of the United States Gov-

[3] Act of June 18, 1929, Cha. 28, Sec. 17, 46 Stat. 25.
[4] Act of June 18, 1929, Cha. 28, Sec. 1, 46 Stat. 21.
[5] Act of May 25, 1937, Cha. 261, Sec. 1, 50 Stat. 204.
[6] Act of May 5, 1862, Cha. 72, Sec. 3, 12 Stat. 387.
[7] Act of March 3, 1927, Cha. 337, Sec. 1, 44 Stat. 1372.
[8] Act of Jan. 14, 1929, Cha. 69, Sec. 1, 25 Stat. 182.
[9] Act of June 13, 1888, Cha. 389, Sec. 1, 25 Stat. 182.

ernment. Its report, totalling nearly 400 pages, examined each agency of Government and defined the statistical activities of each agency. The report concluded:

> The existing situation, however, should not be permitted to continue. In the first place, it is difficult from the present separate and unrelated reports to obtain a complete statistical view of many important subjects ... a second evil of the present arrangement, and one quite as consequential, is the unnecessary expense and annoyance caused producers, trades, carriers, and others by the numerous and ill-coordinated requests of Government offices for information of various kinds.
>
> Finally, the present arrangement for the collection, compilation, and publication of statistical data is uneconomical and expensive to the Government.[10]

The Bureau of Efficiency, as a result of its study of the statistical work of the Federal Government, submitted 33 recommendations. Essentially, the Bureau recommended converting the Bureau of the Census to a Bureau of Federal Statistics, resulting in a concentration of statistical work in one primary agency. While moving in the direction of concentration, the recommendations did suggest the transfer of all vital statistics inquires from the Bureau of the Census to the Public Health Service, the collection and publication of coordinated statistics relating to internal commerce, and a change in the functions of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) so that it would become a Bureau of Labor Economics with a consequent transfer of many BLS programs to the newly created Bureau of Federal Statistics.[11]

The report concluded that if these recommendations were carried out they would:

> bring about a consolidation of field work, a reduction in the number of questionnaire schedules, a reduction in clerical and supervisory costs, and savings in the purchase and rental of machine equipment for tabulation purposes, in printing and mimeograph work and the distribution of statistical publications. Moreover, the adoption of these recommendations will result in coordinated, unified statistics, something that is urgently needed by businessmen and by students of our economic and social problems.[12]

There was little direct action on the Bureau's recommendations.

In the 59 years since the Bureau of Efficiency report there have been additional reviews of Federal statistical activities and proposals for organizational improvements. While there is not sufficient space in this article to present the details of the reviews that have been made of the organization of Federal statistics, the reader will note from those that are highlighted below that most have favored the decentralized organization, at least in broad concept.

Central Statistical Board.—The First Annual Report of the Central Statistical Board[13] in 1934 supported a strong coordinating function working in cooperation with the decentralized operations.[14] Its report in 1939 also focused on the need for stronger coordination.[15]

Committee on Government Statistics and Information Services.—The Committee on Government Statistics and Information Services (COGSIS) from 1933–35 undertook the first comprehensive review of the Federal statistical system undertaken by an outside agency. COGSIS made several recommendations concerning the organization of statistical work. The first recommendation emphasized the decentralization of authority among statistical agencies so they would be responsive to the needs of administrative research. Secondly, they concluded that coordination of the decentralized responsibilities was required and that effective coordination called for "leadership in the development and promotion of adequate standards, the interrela-

[10] *Ibid.*, p. 2.

[11] The Bureau of Efficiency concluded that part of the work of the Bureau of Labor Statistics was of a nonstatistical nature.

[12] *Report on the Statistical Work of the United States Government*, p. 5.

[13] The Central Statistical Board was established in 1933 as an independent agency. The Board's functions were transferred to the Bureau of the Budget in 1939.

[14] *First Annual Report of the Central Statistical Board*, year ended December 31, 1934, p. 7.

[15] *Draft Report of the Activities of the Central Statistical Board During the Fiscal Year 1939*, pp. 1–7.

tion of data among diffrent fields, the elimination of unnecessary duplication, and the planning of a balanced, cooperative statistical system."[16] Finally, COGSIS recommended that focal organizations at the center of their respective fields should be designated to foster work in various fields.

By the time the report was issued, the Central Statistical Board had been established. COGSIS called for continuation of the Central Statistical Board and emphasized the quality of staff which should be assigned to the Board. COGSIS recognized that the Central Statistical Board was still in an embryonic stage and that its full potential had not yet been realized at the time COGSIS was reporting.

Kaysen Committee.—Another look at the organization of Federal statistics was provided by the Kaysen Committee in 1966. The Committee concluded that there were many limitations to the existing Federal statistical system. The Kaysen Committee proposed creating a National Data Center and the development of a new position, Director of the Federal Statistical System, with the Census Bureau and the National Data Center as coordinate functions under his direction. Further, it proposed two councils to be advisory to the director. First, the Committee proposed a Federal Statistical Council, representing the major data producing and using agencies in the system and reporting to the Director of the Federal Statistical System. Second, the Committee recommended formation of a Public Advisory Council with members from outside the Federal Government representing both the public in general and particular users of information such as business, labor, State and local governments, and the academic community.[17]

It is interesting that this proposed reorganization essentially left much of the statistical system intact, simply shifting the Bureau of the Census to a more central location in the Executive Office of the President with the basic judgment that "market forces" would define what statistics are needed and by whom they would be produced. It should be clear that this proposed reorganization, in effect, was simply a relabeling of the status quo at that time, with the important exception that the National Data Center represented a new element. Hence, while purporting to be a central statistical system, in effect the Kaysen Committee proposal was simply a minor alteration of the existing decentralized statistical system. It also had the major potential disadvantage that it would have weakened the tie between statistical coordination and budgetary control.

Commission on Federal Statistics—The next major review of the Federal statistical system was undertaken by the President's Commission on Federal Statistics in 1970. The Commission was charged with undertaking a comprehensive review of the Federal statistical program and answering three basic questions: (1) What are the present and future requirements for quantitative information about our society? (2) How can we minimize the burden on respondents and insure that personal privacy and data received in confidence are protected? (3) How can we organize Federal activities for the most effective compilation and utilization of statistics?

While it made only a limited study of organizational relationships, the Commission indicated that the existing statistical organization was appropriate and that the basic problems were those associated with lack of quality and continuing review. Among its many specific recommendations were suggestions to undertake audits of individual statistical programs to make certain that appropriate methodological and statistical standards were followed. The Commission was particularly concerned with the smaller statistical agencies where, the Commission felt, there was inadequate professional capability to ensure high quality statistical efforts.

1971 Statistical Reorganization.—An explicit effort to address problems of statistical organization was initiated in 1971 by Julius Shiskin, who was head of the Statistical Policy Division in Office of Management and Budget (OMB) from 1969–1973. The objective of his effort was to retain decentralization of the planning of statistical needs in the policymaking and program agencies, but to concentrate the collection and processing activities in some six to eight major statistical centers.

In 1971, the OMB requested the four Depart-

[16] See Government Statistics. *A Report of the Committee on Government Statistics and Information Services,* pp. 5–6.

[17] Kaysen Committee Report, p. 25.

ments with the largest statistical programs (Commerce; Labor; Health, Education, and Welfare; and Agriculture) to prepare and submit plans for reorganization of their statistical activities. Specific guidelines were proposed. These guidelines emphasized the creation of a centralized data collection and processing center in each Department (with up to three in HEW, one for each sector of health, education, and welfare) and a unified data plan and an analytical office for general-purpose statistics.

Following the guidelines, some reorganizations occurred, including the creation of the Social and Economic Statistics Administration (SESA) in Commerce, which was comprised of the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Economic Analysis with some reallocation of functions between the two components over what had previously occurred. The Bureau of Labor Statistics was internally reorganized to separate more clearly data processing and analytical activities.

By 1975, the Department of Commerce concluded that administrative delays and costs of the umbrella organization of SESA were not justified and, as a result, the personnel administration and other functions of SESA were returned to the component agencies and SESA was disbanded. Meanwhile, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) was elevated to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Education and the National Center for Health Statistics was identified by the Assistant Secretary for Health as the focal point for health statistics.

Statistical Reorganization Project.—The most recent review of the Federal statistical system was the President's Statistical Reorganization Project from 1978–1979. The Project examined several organizational options, including the relative merits of consolidating several major statistical agencies into a single entity. The Project recommended retention of the decentralized statistical system and the establishment of an independent Office of Statistical Policy in the Executive Office of the President for the improved coordination of the Federal statistical system.[18]

Decentralization vs. Centralization

As indicated above, reviews of the Federal statistical system by commissions, committees, and other organizations have found it more desirable than not to retain the decentralized organizational arrangements which have evolved. The difficulties inherent in a decentralized system have usually been addressed by recommending a stronger central statistical office for coordination and policy development.

Given the evolutionary development of the Federal statistical system, and the importance of its component units to program departments and agencies, there is a natural resistance to the consolidation of statistical activities as a means of dealing with the demands placed on the system. The complexities of legislation and program combine with vast geographic spread and a large population to make it more desirable to do the best we can with the system we have. Federal statistical programs generally do a good job of meeting the narrow special-purpose objectives for which they were designed. Centralization of statistics into one agency would not be accompanied by a centralization of purpose or treatment in all Federal programs. Consequently, many of the conflicts which arise in incomparability among statistical programs would occur even if all those statistics were produced in one agency.

The following are some of the advantages and defects of the existing decentralized system:

1. The system avoids monopolistic control of statistical intelligence, but at a high price: operational inefficiency, duplication of effort, excessive reporting burden, and lack of uniformity in concepts and definitions.
2. The system responds well to department and agency program needs, but only at the expense of a centralized allocation of resources, enforcement of statistical standards, and the coherent shaping of policies and priorities.
3. The system contains a great variety of both permissive and restrictive arrangements for data protection and data transfers but defies a unified approach to the confiden-

[18] For further details on the Statistical Reorganization Project and other developments affecting the coordination of Federal statistics see: Joseph W. Duncan, "Recent Developments In Reorganization of Statistical Policy," *Statistical Reporter*, April 1980 and "Improving the Federal Statistical System: Report of the President's Reorganization Project for the Federal Statistical System," *Statistical Reporter*, May 1980.

tiality of identifiable information and its immunity from nonstatistical uses.

4. The system is much advised by outside experts and interagency committees, but only through concentration on its disparate parts and with inadequate attention to the whole scheme and its interactions.

5. Relationships between data producers and data users are polymorphous with no engine at the center to drive competing forces into one crucible.

6. The system increasingly fails to be understood by data subjects, the Congress, and the general public. As the production of statistics grows more complex it becomes less visible. Lines of communication, control and accountability become blurred and public confidence in the integrity of Government statistics may be eroded as a result.

One possible solution to many of these difficulties is to consolidate a major portion of the Federal statistical system into a single commission or agency. This concept is most readily examined by discussing a model—a rough outline of the organizational structure, authority, and functions of a proposed central statistical agency—a "Federal Statistical Commission." The following suggests a model for a centralized system:

1. An independent Federal Statistical Commission (FSC) shall be established by the Congress.

2. The Commission shall consist of three commissioners appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Commissioners shall be selected on the basis of their skills and experience in the scientific, professional, and management sciences.

3. The Commissioners shall have staggered, 6-year terms (except at the start), with not more than two commissioners from the same political party. (The chair of the Commission shall be rotated every 2 years to an incumbent commissioner.)

4. The Commission shall be the basic policy body for statistical agencies associated with the Commission. It shall consist of the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Statistical Reporting Service, the National Center for Health Statistics, the National Center for Education Statistics, and the Statistical Policy Branch in OMB. (This last unit should be upgraded over the existing Branch which does not have staff resources to support the Commission adequately.)

5. The professional heads of these 7 entities (upon a vacancy among the incumbents) shall be appointed by the chairperson of the Commission solely from the Federal career service in accordance with applicable statutes, and on the basis of skills and experience in scientific disciplines.

6. The Federal Reports Act of 1942 and section 103 of the Budget and Accounting Procedures Act of 1950 shall be amended so as to transfer the appropriate statutory authorities from OMB to the Commission. However, the broad relationship between statistical policy and information policy (OIRA) shall not be altered.

7. Title 13, the "census code" shall be revised in order to provide a "statistics code" with respect to the authorities and responsibilities of the Commission and to provide for the confidentiality and immunity of identifiable and research information no less rigorously than the present provisions of Title 13.

8. The Commission shall have the authority to permit or restrict the exchange of identifiable information among and between its constituent entities in accordance with appropriate written and published protocols that take into account the differing needs for data protection or data sharing arrangements that arise from the use of Federal and non-Federal (State and local government, etc.) administrative records.

9. Other applicable statutes shall be amended to be compatible with the functions herein assigned to the Commission.

10. The Commission shall conform to existing laws and regulations with respect to the preparation of appropriation requests and their submission to the Office of Management and Budget for transmittal to the Congress.

11. The President and the Commission shall be advised, by law, in three respects:
    a. there is established a Nominating Advisory Panel which shall recommend commissioner-nominees to the President for consideration. The Panel shall consist of seven members (three appointed by the President and four appointed by the Commission) chosen from outside Government on the basis of their skills and experience in scientific disciplines.
    b. there is established a Federal Statistical Advisory Board consisting of 11 members, including the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors, the Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs of the Department of Commerce, and 9 other members appointed one each from within their respective departments by the Secretaries of Agriculture, HHS, Education, HUD, Interior, Labor, Treasury, Energy, and Transportation. The Board shall advise the Commission on its work, may publish its findings independently of Commission approval, and shall make a report to the Congress at least biennially with respect to its views on the work of the Commission.
    c. there is established a Statistical Advisory Committee which shall include at least three members designated respectively by the American Statistical Association; the President, National Academy of Sciences, and the Director, National Science Foundation.

The anticipated benefits of the proposed Federal Statistical Commission are as follows:

1. The establishment of the Commission will bring close to half of the total statistical program budget under a single roof. Within this, various components of the major operating unit budgets would be gradually merged where the same functions are being performed, such as data collection and data processing. This should produce significantly greater economy of operations.
2. The Commission would account for more than one-half of the statistical report forms government-wide. This would provide strong opportunities for more efficient forms design and information use, with consequent reductions in the number of forms and reporting burdens.
3. The Commission, with the advice and support of its advisory groups, could establish clear and specific goals and timetables for the conceptual integration of various data series and the transfer to the Commission of statistical work related to these series that need not be collected by a program agency.
4. The Commission would provide a single focus for data users for many of the major Federal statistical programs. The Commission would provide, in effect, a data ombudsman function.
5. The Congress would be able to deal for the most part with a single entity both in developing legislation affecting statistics and in meeting its own information needs. A central legislative affairs office within the Commission could, in coordination with the Statistical Policy Branch in OMB, provide assistance to other statistical agencies as well as the Congress, on statistical issues outside the Commission's specific responsibilities.
6. Very substantial systems of records would be brought together under a rigorous Federal statute for data protection. Many efficiencies would come from the sharing of these records systems within the Commission. Moreover, since the Commission's programs would include the periodic censuses of agriculture, population and housing, governments, and the economic censuses, the integration of these programs with current programs and the benchmarking of current data would be more effective.

The model outlined above does not deal directly with what organizational arrangement would be most suitable for data analysis and for the collection of statistical information to be used for regulatory purposes. However, a few general principles can be identified for dealing with these elements. First, the Commission would bring together most of the analytic work that is associated with general or multipurpose statistics, the principal economic indicators, and

the data inputs for social indicators and social analysis.

Second, there is considerable data collection associated with the programs and activities of regulatory agencies and administrative programs of agencies such as the Social Security Administration, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Department of Justice. These activities would not be included in the mission of the Commission. However, the review of report forms designed by regulatory agencies should be conditioned by review of the Commission, especially with Statistical Policy Branch advice. Moreover, data collection activities of regulatory agencies for which only aggregate data are needed for program purposes, should normally be reviewed by the Commission.

Virtually any organizational consolidation concept involves trade-offs between costs and benefits even when real benefits or savings can be identified. The advantage of reviewing a specific model is that these trade-offs can be more readily assessed. Although that assessment is beyond the scope of this paper, the nature of such trade-offs can be illustrated. For example, consolidation could offer significant savings in more efficient data collection and data processing technology, whereas additional costs might arise in overhead functions. Gains in the integration of statistical work could be offset if the consolidated agency became monopolistic. Agency size can be a problem in itself unless lines of direction, control, and delegation of authority are carefully structured. Departments and agencies that would give up functions to the commission must have compensating mechanisms to ensure that they can influence and guide the agency's work. The advisory role of outside professionals and experts on statistics is also critical in preserving the diversity and openness of the statistical system. The impartiality and integrity of the statistical system must be insulated from improper political influence. The model attempts to address these potential problems and trade-offs by embedding checks and balances in the structure and mission of the commission concept.

Conclusion

The purpose of this article has been to explore relative merits of a decentralized versus a centralized approach for organizing Federal statistical activities. Given the historical development of the Federal statistical system with its basic authorization through special-purpose legislation, and the practical political pressures of major departments (and their constituencies) to maintain control of existing activities, it is likely to remain a decentralized system.

Sound statistics serve as the basis for good decisionmaking. Therefore, any effort to improve public administration, develop more effective public policy, or evaluate the state of the economy or society must include the development of more relevant, conceptually sound, and carefully collected statistics. The issues of building effective coordination among the diverse statistical agencies in the U.S. Government are very important. The proposals of many study groups remain on the shelf. Meanwhile the problems increase. The suggestions in this article are presented as a contribution to the continuing discussions concerning effective statistical policy coordination.

Changing the Treatment of Shelter Costs for Homeowners in the Consumer Price Index

By Robert Gillingham And Walter Lane
Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

On October 27, 1981, Commissioner of Labor Statistics Janet L. Norwood announced plans to change the procedures used to compile the homeownership component of the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Although the particular procedures used in compiling the CPI might seem to be sufficiently dry and technical to be of little general interest, such is not the case with respect to the homeownership component. As Dr. Norwood pointed out in her announcement, the treatment of owner-occupied housing in the CPI has been one of the most widely discussed issues in economic statistics in recent years. The interest in this component stems from its substantial weight in the CPI and the sensitivity of the overall index—our most widely publicized measure of inflation—to the particular procedures used.

Currently, this component is based on house prices, mortgage interest rates, property taxes and insurance, and maintenance costs. The current treatment captures elements of both the service flow and asset investment components of housing expenditures. The Bureau first raised questions about this component 10 years ago and, since then, has encouraged public review of alternative approaches. The Bureau staff has for some time supported a change in this component to a treatment which would focus solely on the cost of the shelter services of owner-occupied housing, thus abstracting from investment aspects. In the Commissioner's opinion, increasing general understanding of the issues surrounding this component, along with the increasing problems inherent in continuing the current procedure, make a change in this component imperative.

The purposes of this paper are to (1) summarize the proposed changes and the reasons why an immediate decision to make the changes was necessary, (2) describe in some detail the current treatment of homeownership in order to provide the information needed to understand the flaws in the current approach, (3) summarize the reasons why the proposed rental equivalence approach is the best alternative for improving the index and outline the technical procedures which the Bureau is currently implementing to insure an adequate rental equivalence index.

Why Change the CPI? [1]

As we mentioned above, the current approach to homeownership is based on, inter alia, house prices and mortgage interest rates. In announcing the changes which she proposed for the CPI homeownership component, the Commissioner cited several serious difficulties in obtaining reliable data on these components to continue the current approach. First, important changes have occurred in financial markets which are not reflected in the CPI. Funds available for long-term mortgage commitments have declined sharply. New types of mortgage instru-

Robert Gillingham is Chief of the Division of Price and Index Number Research, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Walter Lane is Chief of the Housing Section in the Division of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The views expressed are those of the authors and do not reflect the policies of the BLS or the views of other BLS staff members.

[1] This section paraphrases much of the Commissioner's prepared statement delivered on October 27, 1981 when announcing that the CPI would be changed.

ments involving variable rates, shorter financing terms and other special arrangements have developed so that the standard, long-term, fixed-rate mortgage used in the CPI is becoming increasingly unrepresentative of the mortgage market. In fact, some of the new instruments have characteristics, such as variable rates and principal amounts, which make it impossible to use them in computing the CPI since it reflects a long-term mortgage at fixed interest rates. Furthermore, because of high interest rates and difficulties faced by home buyers in securing bank mortgages, owners who wish to sell their homes are increasingly facilitating sales by providing financing to buyers at below bank rates. These financing arrangements are not reflected at all in the CPI. The house prices used in the CPI are obtained from the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) and pertain to sales financed with FHA-insured mortgages. This data base represents a small and specialized segment of the housing market and presents BLS with increasingly serious estimation problems.

In addition to problems of data adequacy, further impetus to change the homeownership component stems from an important new use to which the index is to be put. The Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 (Public Law 97–34) requires use of the CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for escalation of income tax brackets and the personal exemption amount. The law requires announcement of the new tax brackets in December 1984 based on CPI-U data in the prior two years. This is a major new use of the index, a use which will have broad effect on total Federal Government revenues. In the Commissioner's view, this new use of the index underscores the importance of action to ensure that the CPI reflects the consumption cost experience of consumers to the fullest extent possible.

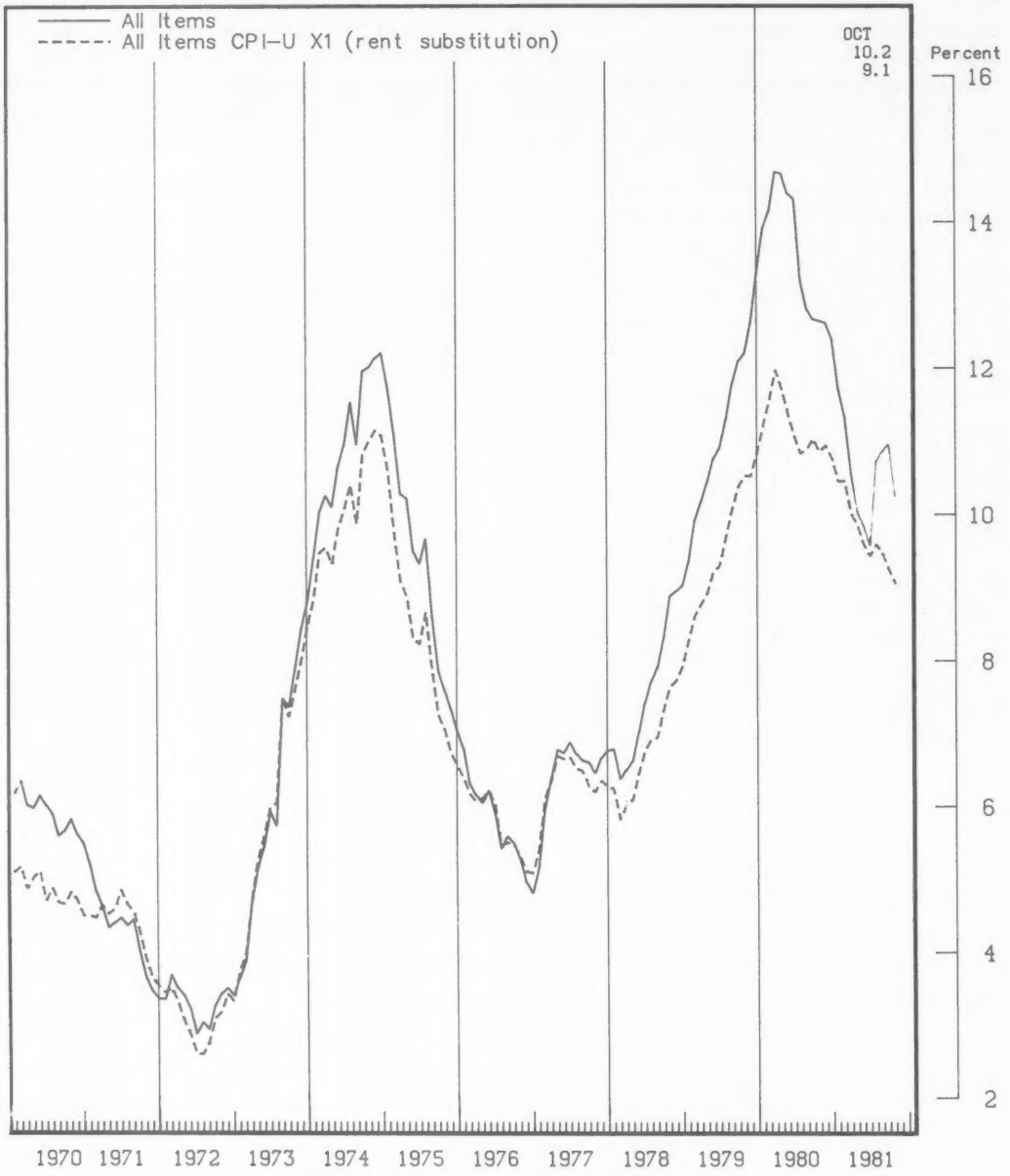
Another reason to initiate immediately the proposed change is the increasing public awareness of the issues surrounding the measurement of homeownership costs in the CPI. A growing number of concerned parties feel that this component is seriously flawed and that changes must be made in order to maintain public confidence in the index. The specific changes to be made are detailed in Table 1. The essence of the decision is to change the homeownership component of the CPI from its current form, which includes both investment and consumption aspects, to a flow of services approach, which focuses only on the consumption of shelter services. This is the important conceptual aspect of the Commissioner's decision. The rationale for making this conceptual change stems from a belief that the index should focus only on current consumption. To provide a more detailed understanding of the empirical implications of this change, the next

Table 1

MAJOR DATES IN CPI CHANGE

January 1982	Publication of CPI for December 1981 —increased prominence for CPI-U, X1 in the text of CPI press release
1982	Work on enhancement of CPI-U, X1 rental equivalence measure
February 1983	Publication of CPI for January 1983 —first publication of CPI-U with rental equivalence homeownership —last publication of CPI experimental measures
July 1983	Publication of CPI for June 1983 —last publication of overlap CPI-U with current homeownership methods
1984	Publication of rental equivalence homeownership with expanded rent sample and improved computation methods
February 1985	Publication of CPI for January 1985 —first publication of CPI-W with rental equivalence homeownership
July 1985	Publication of CPI for June 1985 —last publication of overlap CPI-W with current homeownership method

CHART 1: Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: Percent Change from Same Month a Year Ago



* Percent changes are calculated from unadjusted data.
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

two sections will describe, respectively, the current treatment of this component and the theoretical and empirical reasons for choosing the rental equivalent procedure for implementing the flow-of-services approach.

Current Treatment of Homeownership[2]

In its current form in the index, homeownership has five parts, or elements. Each has its own weight and procedure to estimate monthly price change. The appropriateness of these methods can only be judged in terms of underlying conceptual framework for CPI homeowner costs. Unfortunately, the current treatment of homeownership has no clear conceptual rationale, so the particular procedures used are largely definitional and cannot be justified by resorting to any broader conceptual framework. It is not surprising, then, that much of the debate over homeownership has focused on them.

Weights for the Homeownership Elements.—In the present CPI, the weights reflect consumption patterns reported in the 1972–73 Consumer Expenditure Survey which forms the basis for the overall weighting scheme of the CPI. (Relative importances of the items as of December 1980 are given in Table 2.) The weight for home purchase is the purchase price for homes bought in the survey year, less the sales price for homes sold, plus transactions costs for these purchases and sales. The concept calls for limiting consideration to those consumers who purchased or sold homes during the survey period. To reduce the sampling error, data from a longer period (1968–73), annualized and adjusted for the price increase which took place over the period, was used to compute the weight. Use of these procedures resulted in a home purchase weight which is quite large.

Like home purchase, the mortgage interest concept is limited to mortgages obtained in the survey period. The mortgages must be for the purchase of a home. Only mortgages initiated at the time of house purchase are included in the weight. The weight for "contracted mortgage interest cost" is the amount of interest that survey period borrowers promise to pay during the first half of the term of their mortgage loans. It is called contracted mortgage interest cost because it includes future payments. Especially with today's very long mortgages, homeowners will not, in general, hold their mortgages for the full term. The choice of half the term for the specification of this weight was based on procedures established during the previous revision.

Table 2

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF INDEX COMPONENTS
OFFICIAL CPI-U AND EXPERIMENTAL CPI-U, X1
U.S. CITY AVERAGE
DECEMBER 1980

Expenditure Category	*Percent of All Items* CPI-U	CPI-U, X1
All Items	100.000	100.000
Food and beverages	18.309	21.264
Housing	45.519	36.720
Shelter	31.650	20.613
Rent, residential	5.120	5.946
Other rental costs	.714	.830
Homeownership	25.816	13.837
Fuel and other utilities	6.550	7.604
Household furnishings and operation	7.319	8.503
Apparel and upkeep	4.854	5.639
Tansportation	18.955	22.020
Medical Care	4.717	5.476
Entertainment	3.647	4.237
Other goods and services	3.999	4.643

The weight derivation for the other homeownership elements follow more conventional CPI methods. They depend only on expenditures actually made in the survey year and they refer to expenses incurred by all survey year homeowners—not just homebuyers.

Measuring House Price Changes.—The estimate of the monthly change in house prices is one of the most difficult tasks entailed in the CPI. This estimate moves the weight for home purchase and, with a mortgage interest rate index, it is also used in estimating the mortgage interest cost index. It is not feasible to follow, over time, the prices of a fixed sample of houses—the practice which would be analogous to that used to track price change on most consumer goods and services—because individual houses change hands only infrequently. So, a new selection of

[2] This section is based on Lane (1979).

recently-sold homes must be used each month. To obtain an estimate for the change in house prices from last month to this month, the average price of this month's set of homes must be compared—after adjustment for quality difference—to the average price for last month's set.

The primary difficulty in pursuing this approach is finding a source of data on recent house sales, with both price and quality information, that are (1) available promptly and (2) inclusive of the various types of houses and housing areas. In the current CPI, the data are for house sales on which financing is insured by the Federal Housing Administration. These data fall far short of the ideal. Processing delays often mean that several months elapse between the time a house sale occurs and the time it is used in the CPI. For some geographic areas, especially those in the Northeast, the number of FHA transactions is very small. In addition, the FHA mortgage ceiling virtually eliminates higher priced homes from consideration. The impact of the ceiling—and especially changes in the ceiling—may be quite substantial, possibly resulting in a downward bias in the house price indexes used in the CPI. These effects are discussed in detail in Greenlees (1981a, 1981b).

The other important difficulty in estimating house price change is the development of good quality adjustment procedures, required before a valid comparison between two different samples can be made. Quality adjustment is currently accomplished by sorting the observations on FHA sales into 600 mutually exclusive cells. The cells were generated from the cross classification of the 40 CPI geographic areas, five age ranges, and three size groups. The estimate of change in house prices is computed from the cells. First, the average of the prices per square foot is obtained for each cell. Second, the change is computed for each cell from the average price per square foot of the previous month. Finally, the average of the change is taken over the cells with weights that reflect the base period importance of each cell.[3]

Cost Changes for Mortgage Interest Cost and Other Elements.—Changes in mortgage interest costs are determined from the combination of (1) an estimate of changes in mortgage interest rates and (2) the estimate of the changes in house prices. Thus, the mortgage interest cost element of the CPI shows the effect of changing interest rates, with other loan features held constant, and changing house values, with house quality held constant. Put another way, this element shows the change in the amount required to finance a given house in the face of changes in both the interest rate and the price of the house.

The rate change is estimated using quality control cells similar to those used for house prices. For conventional loans, the cells result from the cross classification of the 40 CPI geographic areas, three downpayment classes, and two classes to distinguish between mortgages on new and existing houses. The source data for conventional loans are provided by the Federal Home Loan Bank Board. They consist of all mortgages closed during the first five business days each month by a sample of savings and loans and other lenders. There is currently a one month lag before the data are used in the CPI. In addition, there are cells for FHA and VA ceiling rates; these have 13.5 percent of the mortgage weight.

Price changes for the other homeownership elements are estimated with the standard CPI technique of following the prices of a fixed set of selected items over time. The property taxes on a sample of homes are tracked from year to year after removing the effect of capital changes and exemption changes which are not the result of new tax rules. Price change for property insurance is estimated by following the price of a specified amount of homeowners or fire and extended coverage insurance, with annual inflation adjustments to any dollar values used in the specifications. For maintenance and repair expenses, a specified set of commodities and services are priced in retail outlets by CPI field representatives.

Rental Equivalence Approach[4]

As the discussion in the preceding section demonstrates, the current treatment of homeownership in the CPI has some very ad hoc aspects. Within this treatment, there is no recognition of the distinction between investment and

[3] Additional procedures exist for dealing with cells with inadequate sample sizes.

[4] This section is based largely on Gillingham (1980).

consumption, nor is there any clearly identified underlying conceptual structure. Such is not the case for the rental equivalence approach. In this section we will summarize the conceptual arguments for this approach and outline the operational steps which will be taken to insure that the approach is effectively implemented.

Conceptual Framework.—To begin with, we take as given the overall conceptual framework for the Consumer Price Index which was presented in Gillingham (1974). As such, we start from the proposition that the consumer's welfare is determined by the flow of consumption services received, where the services can be (1) directly provided, (2) obtained coincidentally with the consumption of a nondurable good (in which case the distinction between a good and a service is unnecessary), or (3) obtained from the use of a durable good owned by the consumer. In each case, satisfaction is derived from the act of consumption; ownership of a source of consumption services—a durable good—is assumed to produce no additional satisfaction. In other words, the purchase of a durable good is an "investment," designed to provide consumption services over a future time span.

Within this framework, we want the CPI to measure the cost over time of the market basket of services *consumed* in the base period. For the services provided by directly-purchased services and nondurable goods this implies observing market prices and transaction levels in the base period, as well as the subsequent time path of market prices. However, for the services provided by durable goods owned by consumers, the implicit price of the services must be estimated, because market transactions do not take place each time the service is consumed.

Within this framework, the problem is basically one of estimation. This problem is not serious for many durable goods because aggregate service flows and aggregate purchase flows are closely related, and asset price movements are closely related to service price movements. Thus, standard techniques can be used. For housing, however, this pattern does not typically hold and alternative procedures must be developed. To analyze this problem for housing, we will start by defining the user cost of housing in the simplest case—in a world of certainty without taxes, and with perfectly competitive markets—and proceed to outline the conceptual and empirical complications which arise when these assumptions are dropped.

In a world with perfect rental and resale markets and no uncertainty, the user cost of a house (C_t) in a given period can be shown to be the following:

$$(1)\ C_t = r_t P_t - A_t + Z_t$$

where r is the (single) rate of interest in period t, P is the average price of the house in period t, A is equal to the change in the average price over the period and Z represents all other cost components. In other words, the user cost is defined as the opportunity cost of holding the house, $r \cdot P + Z$, less the increase in the house's value. In equilibrium, the rental price of the house, R, will be equal to the user cost, and, since we have assumed frictions away, the rent received by a landlord will equal the rent paid by a tenant. Thus, in a perfect world the following obtains

$$(2)\ R_t^L = C_t = R_t^T$$

where the superscripts L and T denote landlord and tenant, respectively.

Under the conditions we have assumed, measurement of the value of the flow of shelter services from a house becomes a trivial matter. It can be measured with information from either rental or resale and money markets and it does not matter whether the information refers to buyers' or sellers' prices. Problems arise, however, when we attempt to measure the cost of shelter for homeowners in a more complicated setting, in which the exact form of the user cost function is more difficult to define and the equalities defined above need not hold.

To lay out this problem more clearly, we will drop the assumption of perfect certainty, thereby allowing for a structure of differing asset yields. We will also relax the assumption of perfect markets to allow for the possibility that the rent received by a homeowner may be less than the rent paid by a tenant, the difference representing, for instance, the value of a management function. Although we no longer assume perfect rental markets, we do assume that there is some price at which each homeowner can rent shelter services equivalent to those provided by his own home and some strictly positive price at

which another consumer would be willing to rent his house. Under these conditions, the user cost measure can be redefined as

$$(3)\quad C_t = r_{et}E_t + r_{mt}M_t - A_t + Z_t$$

where M and E are mortgage and equity amounts which sum to the average price of housing (P), r_m is the mortage interest rate, and r_e is the opportunity cost of equity capital.[5]

The relationship between user cost, defined in this manner, and the alternative rent measures defined above is now ambiguous, and depends critically on the manner in which the opportunity cost of equity capital is defined. Certainly, the rent paid by a tenant (R^T) must be greater than or equal to that received by a landlord (R^L), but depending on the manner in which one chooses to define and estimate the opportunity cost of equity capital (r_e), the relationship between each of the rent measures and user cost (C) is uncertain.

The variables included in the redefined user cost function are all conceptually and operationally straightforward with one crucial exception—the opportunity cost of equity capital. Unfortunately, estimates of user cost are also sensitive to alternative definitions of this variable. Several somewhat "natural" alternatives for defining the opportunity cost of equity capital (r_e) are discussed in Gillingham (1980). In Gillingham (1972), it was suggested that r_e be estimated as an internal rate of return defined by the identity

$$(4)\quad R^L_t + A_t \equiv r_{et}E_t + r_{mt}M_t + Z_t,$$

where $R^L(t)$ is an estimate of the market rental which an owner could receive for his house. Alternatively, one might argue that the appropriate internal rate of return be defined by substituting R^T for R^L in equation (4). In either case the resulting estimate of user cost, which we will call C*, reduces to an implicit rent, and the following relationship holds:

$$(5)\quad R^L_t \leq C^*_t \leq R^T_t.$$

The suggestion to use an internal rate of return on housing to estimate user cost is based on the assumption that this rate best describes the alternative rate of return an owner/investor could receive on another investment with similar liquidity and risk characteristics.

That is, the household's user cost of owner-occupied housing or cost of *consuming* the flow of services from its housing unit must be at least as great as the income which the household could receive by renting the unit to someone else. This cost is independent of the capital gains achievable from holding housing assets, except insofar as such gains are reflected in rent levels. Each household determines its housing stock based on decisions regarding the expected rates of return on housing equity and other assets with varying characteristics. This determination is separate, however, from the decision as to the rate of consumption of housing services. Such factors as the rate of change in house prices determine the rate of return on equity, but *ex post* capital gains do not affect the user cost. In the same way, defining r_e other than as the internal rate of return has the effect of incorrectly including in C some element of the investment return on housing investments. This result implies that rental equivalence measures are a necessary input into the development of acceptable user cost measures.

Empirical Implementation.—The foregoing discussion emphasizes the importance of explicit or implicit rental market information in obtaining conceptually sound user cost measures. In Gillingham (1981) it is demonstrated that directly estimated user cost functions are subject to extreme volatility and that direct use of rental market information is a far more promising approach. The basic question then becomes the appropriate design of a rental equivalence estimation procedure.[5] Over the past several years, the BLS has produced an experimental rental equivalence index which simply uses the rent index to move a rental equivalence weight derived from the 1972–73 CES. Relative importances for this index are also given in Table 2 and the relative movements of this index and the official index are displayed in Chart 1. Although CPI-U-X1 gives a rough idea of how a rental equivalence index would move, the BLS feels several procedural improvements are required before an official rental equivalence index is introduced. The remainder of this section will describe the steps that are currently underway at

[5] Gillingham (1981) produces experimental rental equivalence indexes using a very different set of procedures unsuited for use in the CPI. The results, however, give no evidence that a reasonable rental equivalence measure would be excessively difficult to produce.

BLS to improve the method of calculating the rental equivalence measure now used in the CPI-U-X1. This work will be completed in the latter part of 1982 and will be ready for introduction into the CPI-U with data for January 1983.

Specifically, three limitations of the current rental equivalence measure will be addressed. First, the sample of rental units now used will be reweighted so that it will represent owner-occupied housing units instead of renter-occupied units. The current sample of rental units was selected, with a probability-based technique, from the renter-occupied units in selected neighborhoods in each CPI pricing area. The rent survey neighborhoods were selected using, among other stratification variables, the percent of the neighborhood that was owner-occupied. By taking advantage of this element of the design of the rent survey, new weights can be assigned to the housing units in the sample so that they will represent the owner-occupied housing units in their neighborhoods, CPI areas, and, ultimately, all urban places in the United States. The reweighted rent sample can then be viewed as representing—under the rental equivalence concept—homeowner costs for all urban consumers in the United States.

Secondly, the expenditure weight for rental equivalence, which for the experimental index was calculated by means of a short-cut method, will be recalculated using the complex statistical estimating procedure used for weights in the official CPI. This enhancement will improve the quality of the national CPI's rental equivalence weight and will provide weights for computation of local area CPI's using the rental equivalence approach.

Finally, the computer system which produces the CPI each month will be expanded to accommodate the calculation of a CPI-U, with complete item and geographic detail, which employs the rental equivalence approach.

Subject to resource availability, longer range plans for improving the rental equivalence measure include an augmentation of the sample of rental units. This new sampling will be concentrated in areas where the housing is predominantly owner-occupied in order to increase the proportion of rental units that have characteristics similar to owner-occupied units. In addition, improvements in the statistical estimating techniques for rental equivalence will also be developed.

Conclusion

The decision to change to a flow-of-services approach to measuring shelter costs for homeowners implies a major conceptual change for this component of the CPI. As we attempted to demonstrate in the foregoing discussion, we feel the current approach is severely lacking in conceptual rationale and that the proposed changes will be a great improvement in this respect. Much of the controversy over the change, however, has centered around the empirical question of which index will increase more rapidly over the next several years. As Chart 1 demonstrates, the rental equivalence index increased less rapidly over the past decade. However, this period has been marked by substantial activity in housing markets and widely fluctuating mortgage interest rates. It would be extremely difficult to predict relative future movements and thus the decision as to whether to change the index must be based on conceptual and operational adequacy, a subject on which we do have information, rather than on predictions of future movements in the indexes, a subject on which our information is extremely uncertain.

References

Gillingham, R. (1972). "Measurement in the Consumer Price Index of the Cost of Shelter for Homeowners." Mimeo, June.

Gillingham, R. (1974). "A Conceptual Framework for the Revised Consumer Price Index." *Proceedings*, Business and Economics Statistics Section, American Statistical Association, pp. 246–52.

Gillingham, R. (1980). "Estimating the User Cost of Owner-Occupied Housing." *Monthly Labor Review*, Vol. 103, No. 2: p. 31–5.

Gillingham, R. (1981). "Measuring the Cost of Shelter for Homeowners: Theoretical and Empirical Considerations." BLS Working Paper No. 122.

Greenlees, J. (1981a). "Sample Truncation in FHA Data: Implications for Home Purchase Indexes," BLS Working Paper No. 113, forthcoming in *Southern Economic Journal*, April 1982.

Greenlees, J. (1981b). "Alternative Indexes of Home Purchase Prices, 1973–1978," BLS Working paper No. 114.

Lane, W. (1979). "The Costs of Homeownership." *Seller/Servicer*. September/October.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

HISTORICAL GNP DETAIL NOW AVAILABLE

The Bureau of Economic Analysis has published revised estimates of the national income and product accounts that resulted from the comprehensive revision completed in December 1980 in two reports: *The National Income and Product Accounts of the United States 1929–76: Statistical Tables;* and *National Income and Product Accounts, 1976–79,* a Special Supplement to the *Survey of Current Business.* Estimates for the period since 1979 appear monthly in the *Survey.* The first report listed includes definitions of aggregates and major components of the accounts and describes the classifications used for sectors, legal form of organization, and industry.

The national income and product accounts, of which gross national product (GNP) is the centerpiece, provide a comprehensive picture of the economic process—the production, distribution, and use of output. These measures are among the most important and widely used economic statistics. The accounts provide over 4,000 economic time series presented in about 130 tables, which are organized into nine groups that focus on an individual account or a functional classification.

Constant-dollar or "real" estimates—i.e., estimates from which price change has been removed—are provided for GNP and its components, net national product, national income, GNP by industry, and disposable personal income. The associated price indexes for each of these series are also shown.

Quarterly series are presented for gross national product, net national product, and national income and personal income and their components. Monthly series are included for personal income, taxes, and outlays. Most quarterly and all monthly series are seasonally adjusted. Not seasonally adjusted series are shown quarterly for GNP and its components, government receipts and expenditures, and corporate profits.

The nine groups into which the national income and product account tables are organized are:

National Product and Income

Personal Income and Outlays

Government Receipts and Expenditures

Foreign Transactions

Saving and Investment

Product, Income, and Employment by Industry

Implicit Price Deflators and Price Indexes

Supplementary Tables

Seasonably Unadjusted Estimates

The National Income and Product Accounts of the United States, 1929–76: Statistical Tables (Stock Number 003–010–00101–1, price $10) and *National Income and Product Accounts, 1976–79* (Stock Number 003–010–72188–0, price $4.55), can be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Estimates included in both publications are also available on computer tape for $150. Computer tapes can be ordered from the National Income and Wealth Division (BE–54), Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230 (ROBERT P. PARKER, NATIONAL INCOME AND WEALTH DIVISION, BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, telephone (202) 523-0669.)

MEASUREMENT OF SUBJECTIVE PHENOMENA

Measurement of Subjective Phenomena, a collection of essays concerning methodological issues surrounding the use and interpretation of subjective responses such as attitudes, beliefs, and opinions, has been published by the Census Bu-

reau. The volume is in the Center for Demographic Studies' series, Special Demographic Analyses. Publications in this series, which was initiated in 1980, are designed to provide perspectives on important demographic, economic, and social trends and insight into methodological issues affecting the data used in the analysis of trends.

The volume's unifying theme is presented by Denis Johnston in his introduction:

> The difficulty with many simple, inexpensive, familiar, and objective measures is that rigorous operational definitions of the phenomena they reflect typically fall far short of the complex reality that is of interest to researchers and policymakers alike.

Issues involved in the "complex reality" in establishing satisfaction, confidence in public institutions, the perception and evaluation of neighborhood quality, and a variety of other social indicators form the substance of the four major essays:

Allen R. Wilcox, "Dissatisfaction with Satisfaction: Subjective Social Indicators and the Quality of Life"

Charles F. Turner, "Surveys of Subjective Phenomena: A Working Paper"

Donald C. Dahmann, "Subjective Indicators of Neighborhood Quality"

Tom W. Smith, "Can We Have Confidence in Confidence? Revisited"

Commentaries by Frank M. Andrews and Angus Campbell accompany the first two essays, as do replies by the original authors. The volume concludes with an afterword by Edwin D. Goldfield.

Copies of this monograph, *Measurement of Subjective Phenomena,* may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402; Stock Number 003–024–03167–1; $5.50. (DONALD C. DAHMANN, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, telephone (301) 763–5844.)

1978 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE DATA

The Census Bureau has recently produced a special summary tape of selected final State and county data from the *1978 Census of Agriculture* Volume 1 report series. The tape consists of data from the individual 5-page county reports and from the 21 county summary tables. Data are included dealing with farms by standard industrial classification, land use, farm commodities (including nursery and greenhouse products), farm machinery, and operators by racial groups.

The consolidated tape set, entitled *Census of Agriculture, 1978 Final File,* comes on two reels at 6250 bpi, or five reels at 1600 bpi, with technical documentation. The cost is $1,000. Contact Douglas Miller, Agriculture Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233, telephone (301) 763–5656 for ordering information. (DOUGLAS MILLER, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, telephone (301) 763–5656.)

SUBJECT INDEX TO CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

The Census Bureau recently published the first "Subject Index to Current Population Reports: December 1980," a bibliographic inventory of all *Current Population Reports.*

The index lists individual publication sequentially by subject, series number, year covered, area or level of coverage, and title. In the future, the Bureau will issue annual supplements to the index.

The reports identified in the index belong to the *Current Population Report* series—Population Characteristics (P–20), Special Studies (P–23), Population Estimates and Projections (P–25), Federal-State Cooperative Program for Population Estimates (P–26), Farm Population (P–27), and Consumer Income (P–60).

These reports deal with a multitude of demographic and economic topics—households, families, races, voting, school enrollment, income, travel to work, poverty level, population totals for the Nation, regions, divisions and States, and many other topics. Most of the data found in these reports are for the Nation as a whole.

Not included in this index is Series P–28, a collection of special censuses contracted for by State and local governments. A separate summary of special censuses is published biannually; however, no summary will be released for some time, since no special censuses have been

taken since 1979 due to the 1980 decennial census.

"Subject Index to Current Population Reports: December 1980," *Current Population Reports* (GPO Catalog No. C3. 186:P23/109) is available from the Government Printing Office for $3.25. (JOHANNA BARTEN, BUREAU OF CENSUS, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, telephone (301) 763–5002.)

RECENT SOCIAL SECURITY BULLETIN REPORTS

The following briefly highlights recent articles appearing in the *Social Security Bulletin:*

Study of Emergency Assistance and Special Needs Programs (Social Security Bulletin, September 1981).—This article gives an overview of a research study concerning emergency assistance and special needs programs. It notes that the range of programs available in States and counties is large, but that due to a combination of rules, State and local priorities, and financial difficulties, coverage of groups of clients and types of needs is uneven. The nature of the emergency assistance and special needs system in States seems to be closely tied to reactions to the nationwide trend toward standardizing grants and to long-standing State policies such as those concerning the desired size of welfare grants and the level of individualization preferred.

International Trends in Disability Program Growth (Social Security Bulletin, October 1981).—The steep growth in the number of beneficiaries under the U.S. Social Security Disability Insurance program during 1966–77 has aroused interest in learning whether programs abroad experienced similar expansion. This article presents the gross rate of disability incidence in five European programs and explores termination rates (for recovery and death) in three of those programs. Factors underlying growth patterns are also discussed.

Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1981: Legislative History and Summary of OASDI and Medicare Provisions (*Social Security Bulletin,* October 1981).—In this article, the Commissioner of Social Security traces the legislative development and summarizes the final form of changes in the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) and Medicare programs incorporated in the Omnibus legislation, signed into law by President Reagan on August 13. The final section of the article shows that, although the Social Security and Medicare provisions in Public Law 97–35 will have a favorable effect on the overall financial status of the OASDI and Hospital Insurance Trust Funds, these changes will not be sufficient to restore the financial soundness of the programs in the near term or over the long range.

Reprints of these articles are available from the Publications Staff, Office of Research and Statistics, Social Security Administration, Room 1120 Universal North Building, 1875 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20009, telephone (202) 673–5576. (ROBERT E. ROBINSON, SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, telephone (202) 673–5576.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY RESEARCH

The Social Security Administration recently released *Four Decades of International Social Security Research: A Bibliography of Studies by the Social Security Administration, 1937–80.*

This bibliography lists studies of programs in 35 countries in 14 categories, ranging from administration to old-age, survivors, and invalidity insurance to work injury coverage. An "international" section enumerates multi-country studies. Under each section, entries appear in reverse chronological order.

Single copies of *Four Decades of International Social Security Research* (SSA Publication No. 13–11733) are available from the Publications Staff, Office of Research and Statistics, Social Security Administration, Room 1120, Universal North Building, 1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. (ROBERT E. ROBINSON, SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, telephone (202) 673–5209.)

CHARACTERISTICS OF SSI BENEFICIARIES

The Social Security Administration recently released *Program and Demographic Characteristics of Supplemental Security Income Beneficiaries, December 1979.*

Characteristics tabulated include average benefit amounts, living arrangements, income, age, sex, and race. The 38-page report also contains

a summary of findings and an outline of program provisions as of July 1980.

Single copies of *Program and Demographic Characteristics of Supplemental Security Income Beneficiaries* (SSA Publication No. 13–11977) are available from the Publications Staff, Office of Research and Statistics, Social Security Administration, Room 1120, Universal North Building, 1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. (ROBERT E. ROBINSON, SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, telephone (202) 673–5209.)

SSI BENEFICIARIES BY STATE AND COUNTY

The Social Security Administration recently published *Supplemental Security Income, State and County Data, December 1980*. This 137-page compilation covers both beneficiary counts and amounts of federally administered payments. A brief description of procedures introduces the detailed tabulations.

Single copies of *Supplemental Security Income, State and County Data* (SSA Publication No. 13–11976) are available from the Publications Staff, Office of Research and Statistics, Social Security Administration, Room 1120, Universal North Building, 1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. (ROBERT E. ROBINSON, SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, telephone (202) 673–5209.)

RECENT JUSTICE STATISTICS REPORTS

The Bureau of Justice Statistics recently released the following reports:

Veterans in Prison (4 pages).—Vietnam-era veterans who served in Southeast Asia represented less than 5 percent of all State prison inmates as of November 1979. Except for inmates under 25, veterans were less likely than nonveterans to be in prison. Even so, veterans under 25 made up only 13 percent of the inmates under 25. Of the males in the general population, 13.6 percent of those between 18 and 64 are Vietnam-era veterans; about 8 percent of those between 18 and 25 are veterans. Of these younger veterans in prison, five of every nine served during the Vietnam era; the other four served later.

Issues in the Measurement of Victimization (38 pages).—This report summarizes 15 years of research on the methodology of using population surveys to measure crime victimization. It reviews features of crime that affect whether it can be measured accurately, including the relative rarity of serious victimization, the furtive character of crime, and the uneven distribution of crime in the population. Other issues addressed include design of survey questionnaires, the problem of forgetting and inaccurate recall, sample design, differences between telephone and in-person interviews, and interviewer effects.

Copies of these reports may be obtained from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, Washington, D.C. 20531. (BENJAMIN H. RENSHAW III, BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, telephone (202) 724–7774.)

FRB SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT REPORT

The Report of the Committee of Experts on Seasonal Adjustment Techniques, *Seasonal Adjustment of the Monetary Aggregates*, is now available for distribution.

In early 1978 the Federal Reserve Board asked a group of prominent statisticians and economists to examine the applicability of seasonal adjustment techniques to time series of financial data, particularly the monetary aggregates, their components, and related series, with a view to recommending to the Board the most appropriate methods for seasonally adjusting such series.

The committee's report contains ten principal recommendations for modifications in the existing Board procedures and their use, the development of alternative procedures, the publication of initial and revised seasonally adjusted monetary statistics, and guidelines for additional research by the Board's staff on seasonal adjustment techniques.

The report is available for $2.75 a copy from Publications Services, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, D.C. 20551. (DAVID PIERCE, DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS, FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD, telephone (202) 452–3895.)

STATISTICS OF INCOME BULLETIN, FALL 1981

The Internal Revenue Service has recently re-

leased the fall 1981 issue of its quarterly publication, the *SOI Bulletin*. This issue presents data for recent years on four subjects.

Initial income and tax estimates from 1980 individual income tax returns are provided in the first article. Next, detailed data on tax-exempt organizations (other than private foundations) from 1975–78 are shown, including type of organization and principal activity statistics. The third topic covers business activity for 1978, presenting selected items for corporations, partnerships, and sole proprietorships for several industries. Finally, the report contains detailed information on the 1980 windfall profit tax liability, as well as on the components of the windfall profit.

Copies of the 54-page report (publication 1136, Vol. 1, No. 2) may be purchased at an annual subscription rate of $11.00 or a single issue rate of $3.50 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. (NOREEN HOFFMEIER, STATISTICS DIVISION, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, telephone (202) 376–0195.)

STATISTICS OF INCOME AND RELATED ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD RESEARCH

The Internal Revenue Service's Statistics Division recently published *Statistics of Income and Related Administrative Record Research*. This report is comprised of a selection from the papers presented at the 141st Annual Meeting of the American Statistical Association in Detroit, Michigan, August 10–13, 1981. Most of the papers in the volume deal, directly or indirectly, with ongoing studies that are being conducted by the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) Statistics Division, the Small Business Administration (SBA), the Social Security Administration, the Bureau of the Census, and Statistics Canada.

Six major topics are covered in the collection:

1. Planned improvements in the IRS Statistics of Income program;
2. SBA's small business data base;
3. Efforts to develop administrative records for statistical purposes;
4. A data linkage model designed at Statistics Canada for use in health-related research;
5. Nonprofit sector statistics; and
6. Current studies on pension data.

Single copies of the 214-page report are available upon request from the Statistics Division PR:S, Internal Revenue Service, 1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20224. (WENDY ALVEY, STATISTICS DIVISION, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, telephone (202) 376–0216.)

WORKSHOP COVERING INTEGRATED DATA BASES

The second annual Integrated Data Base Workshop was held at the U.S. Geological National Center in Reston, Virginia on October 14–15, 1981.

The workshop examined the challenges of integrating data to address interdisciplinary problems and explored opportunities to increase the efficiency of such activities. Discussions centered on subnational levels of data, including county-level data.

Panel speakers in one of the key sessions described specific integrated analysis systems such as the Decision Information Display System, SEEDIS, Geocology, among others. Other panel sessions focused on standardizing, classifying and coding data; major data sources and access; and measurement and analytical techniques. Some of the data bases were demonstrated and explained at the poster and exhibit sessions. Two sessions were devoted to discussion groups, one organized according to interdisciplinary lines, another by five areas of concern: (1) health; (2) socioeconomic; (3) natural resources; (4) environmental quality; and (5) methods.

For copies of the workshop proceedings write to: Richard J. Olson, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Box X, Building 1505, Oak Ridge, TN 37830. (HAL WALLACH, GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE, telephone (202 275–3663.)

WORKSHOP ON NONPROFIT AND PENSION STATISTICS

On Thursday, October 29, 1981, the Internal Revenue Service's Statistics Division and the Washington Statistical Society jointly sponsored a luncheon workshop entitled "Current Nonprofit Sector and Pension Research." Dallas Salisbury, of the Employee Benefit Research In-

stitute, was the keynote speaker. The session, chaired by John DiPaolo of the Internal Revenue Service, also featured Gene Steuerle from the Office of Tax Analysis, and Emily Andrews of the Social Security Administration, who discussed selected (IRS and other) papers presented at the 141st Annual Meeting of the American Statistical Association in Detroit, Michigan, August 10–13, 1981. Copies of the papers discussed appear in the *Statistics of Income and Related Administrative Record Research*, a recent Internal Revenue Service publication.

For information about the workshop itself, contract Nick Greenia, Business and Pension Statistics Section, Statistics Division, PR:S:I2, Internal Revenue Service, 1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20224, telephone (202) 376–0151. (WENDY ALVEY, STATISTICS DIVISION, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, telephone (202) 376–0216.)

1982 STATISTICAL WORKSHOP AND SEMINAR PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

Seminars and workshops will be offered by Warren Glimpse & Co. during 1982 to improve the ability of the participant to more effectively use statistical and related data resources. The 1982 program includes three courses designed to fit a wide range of needs.

The Census Data File Workshop is intended for persons who are or will be using census data files. The workshop includes coverage of the 1980 census files, intercensal demographic files, other census statistical program files, and related computer software. The workshop is designed to help participants understand better the availability, structure, and how to use census and census-related files.

The Effective Data Presentation course provides instruction on techniques of data presentation in reports, newsletters, and decision support materials. Tabular, graphic, and textual presentation of data are covered. The course is intended to improve participant ability to design and manage development of reports and other materials which communicate more effectively.

The Federal Statistical Resources— Organization and Access course provides an overview of Federal statistical programs and products. Agencies include the Census Bureau, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics, National Center for Education Statistics, and many others. Participants include persons who need to keep abreast of current developments regarding Federal statistics. Focus is placed on availability, structure, and access to the data resources.

The 1982 calendar of courses offered by the company is shown below:

Feb. 17–18	Census Data File Workshop	Houston, Texas
March 10–11	Effective Data Presentation	Washington, D.C.
April 14–15	Census Data File Workshop	Washington, D.C.
May 18–19	Federal Statistical Resources	Washington, D.C.
June 9–10	Census Data File Workshop	Los Angeles, Ca.
July 14–15	Effective Data Presentation	Chicago, Ill.
Sept. 15–16	Federal Statistical Resources	New York, N.Y.
Sept. 28–29	Census Data File Workshop	Washington, D.C.
Oct. 27–28	Effective Data Presentation	Washington, D.C.
Nov. 16–17	Federal Statistical Resources	Phoenix, Az.
Dec. 1–2	Census Data File Workshop	Orlando, Fla.

For further information on the courses, contact Warren Glimpse & Co., P.O. Box 1943, Alexandria, Virginia 22313 or call (703) 836–6800.

PERSONNEL NOTE

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service: JACK BLACKSIN has retired after 39 years of Government service. Blacksin, who headed the Individual Income Statistics Section, Statistics Division, for 20 years, spent the past year as a reemployed annuitant and Chief of the Business and Pension Statistics Section, Statistics Division.

SCHEDULE OF RELEASE DATES FOR PRINCIPAL FEDERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

January 1982

Release dates scheduled by agencies responsible for the principal economic indicators of the Federal Government are given below. These are target dates that will be met in the majority of cases. Occasionally agencies may be able to release dates a day or so earlier or may be forced by unavoidable compilation problems to release a report one or more days later. In certain cases,* timing variability in the receipt of raw data requires a range of dates rather than a specific release date.

A similar schedule will be shown here each month covering release dates for the following month. The indicators are identified by the title of the releases in which they are included; the source agency; and the release identification number where applicable. Release date information for additional series can be found in publications of the sponsoring agencies.

(Any inquiries about these series should be directed to the issuing agency.)

Date		*Subject*	*Data for*
January	4	Construction Expenditures (Press release), Census, C–30	November
	4	Money Stock Measures and Liquid Assets, Federal Reserve Board (FRB), H.6	Week Ending December 23
	7	Monthly Wholesale Trade (Press release), Census, BW	November
	7	Selected Interest Rates, FRB, G.13	December
	8	The Employment Situation (Press release), Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)	December
	8	Weekly Consolidated Condition Report of Large Commercial Banks and Domestic Subsidiaries, FRB, H.4.2	Week Ending December 30
	8	Factors Affecting Reserves of Depository Insitutions, FRB, H.4.1	Week Ending January 6
	8	Consumer Installment Credit, FRB, G.19	November
	8	Money Stock Measures and Liquid Assets, FRB, H.6	Week Ending December 30
	8	Monthly Selected Services Receipts (Press release), Census	November
	11	Crop Production, Agriculture	January 1
	12	Producer Price Indexes (Press release), BLS	December
	13	Plant and Equipment Expenditures, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)	1982 Expectations

Date		Subject	Data for
January	13	Advance Monthly Retail Sales (Press release), Census	December
	14	Manufacturing and Trade: Inventories and Sales, Census	November
	15	Weekly Consolidated Condition Report of Large Commercial Banks and Domestic Subsidiaries, FRB, H.4.2	Week Ending January 6
	15	Factors Affecting Reserves of Depository Insitutions, FRB, H.4.1	Week Ending January 13
	15	Supply/Demand Estimates, Agriculture	Current Marketing Season
	15	Yields on FHA Insured New Home 30-Year Mortgages, HUD	January 1
	15	Money Stock Measures and Liquid Assets, FRB, H.6	Week Ending January 6
	15	Industrial Production, FRB, G.12.3	December
	18	Cattle on Feed, Agriculture	4Q'81
	18	Capacity Utilization: Manufacturing and Materials, FRB, G.3	December
	19	Housing Starts (Press release), Census, C–20	December
	19	Personal Income and Outlays, BEA	December
	20	Gross National Product (Preliminary), BEA	4Q'81
	22	Money Stock Measures and Liquid Assests, FRB, H.6	Week Ending January 13
	22	Factors Affecting Reserves of Depository Institutions, FRB, H.4.1	Week Ending January 20
	22	Weekly Consolidated Condition Report of Large Commercial Banks and Domestic Subsidiaries, FRB, H.4.2	Week Ending January 13
	22	Advance Report on Durable Goods, Manufacturers' Shipments, and Orders (Press Release) Census, M3–1	December
	22	Consumer Price Index (Press Release), BLS	December
	22	Real Earnings (Press Release), BLS	December
	25	Grain Stocks Report, Agriculture	January 1
	*25–29	Savings and Loan Association Activity (Press release), FHLBB	December
	26	Supply/Demand Estimates, Agriculture	Current Marketing Season
	26	Treasury Statement (the monthly "budget"), Treasury	December
	27	Labor Turnover in Manufacturing (Press release), BLS	December
	28	Export and Import Merchandise Trade, Census, FT–900	December
	28	Composite Indexes of Leading, Coincident, and Lagging Indicators, BEA	December
	28	Productivity and Costs in Private Business, Nonfarm, and Manufacturing Sectors (Press release), BLS	4Q'81
	28	Housing Vacancies (Press release), Census, H–111	4Q'81

Date		Subject	Data for
January	29	Major Collective Bargaining Settlements, BLS	1981 Annual
	29	Factors Affecting Reserves of Depository Institutions, FRB, H.4.1	Week Ending January 27
	29	Weekly Consolidated Condition Report of Large Commercial Banks and Domestic Subsidiaries, FRB, H.4.2	Week Ending January 20
	29	Money Stock Measures and Liquid Assets, FRB, H.6	Week Ending January 20
	29	Agricultural Prices, Agriculture	Mid-January
	29	Work Stoppages (Press Release), BLS	December

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.
Subscription Price: $26.00 domestic postpaid: $6.50 additional foreign mailing.

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES FOR DISTRIBUTION AND NEWS ITEMS

		Telephone
Agriculture:	Richard J. Schrimper Economics and Statistics Service	447-6201
Commerce:		
Census:	Gary Young (news items)	899-7670
BEA:	Larry Moran	523-0777
	Ann Winkler (personnel notes)	523-0890
Defense:	Mary Frances White, OSD Comptroller	695-6365
Education:	O. Jean Brandes (NCES)	436-7873
Energy:	John Daniels (news items)	252-1175
	Norman C. Kraft (personnel notes and distribution)	252–6537
HHS:	Richard E. Schmidt	245-7507
PHS:	Gooloo Wunderlich, OAS for Health	472-7921
	Linda Washington, NCHS (news items)	436-8500
	Evelyn W. Gordon, Food and Drug	443-6220
SSA:	John J. Carroll, Director, Office of Research & Statistics (news items)	673-5602
	Robert Robinson, ORS (distribution)	673-5576
HUD:	Marilyn C. Fine	755-5306
IASI:	Susana Moncayo	789-3779
Interior:	Abraham Haspel Office of Policy Analysis	343-6007
	Kathleen Sullivan, Bureau of Mines (news items)	634-1125

		Telephone
Justice:	Roger Kramer, (INS only)	633-3059
	Marilyn Marbrook, Bureau of Justice Statistics	724-7774
Labor:	Joan Hall (distribution only) Office of the Secretary	961-2001
BLS:	Henry Lowenstern	523-1327
	Anna Hill (news items)	523-1661
ETA:	Burt S. Barnow, Office of Research and Development	376-7335
	Frances Wattenberg, Office of Policy, Evaluation, and Research	376-5209
	Robert Yerger, Office of Management Information	376-6456
Transportation:	James L. Duda	426-0975
Treasury:	Ed Hartman, Printing Procurement (distribution only)	566-5381
	Barbara Haas (news items)	566-2056
IRS:	Wendy Alvey (news items)	376-0216
Consumer Prod Safety Com:	Elaine Soley-Smith	492-6404
Fed Reserve:	Robert M. Fisher, R & S	452-2871
NASA:	W. A. Greene	755-8439
NSF:	Charles E. Falk, Div. of Science Resources Studies	634-4634
	Elizabeth Williams	634-4622
Office of Personnel Management:	Philip Schneider	632-6808
USPS:	Richard E. Deighton, Statistical Analysis Division	245-4195
VA:	Robert W. Schultz, Director of Reports and Statistics Service	389-2423

SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

ENTER MY SUBSCRIPTION TO **STATISTICAL REPORTER** (SRE) @ $26.00. Add $6.50 for foreign mailing. No additional postage is required for mailing within the United States, its possessions, Canada, Mexico, and all Central and South American Countries except Argentina, Brazil, British Honduras, French Guiana, Guyana, and Surinam. For shipment to all other foreign countries include additional postage as quoted for each periodical or subscription service.

Send Subscription to:

NAME—FIRST, LAST

COMPANY NAME OR ADDITIONAL ADDRESS LINE

STREET ADDRESS

CITY | STATE | ZIP CODE

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

☐ Remittance Enclosed (Make checks payable to Superintendent of Documents)

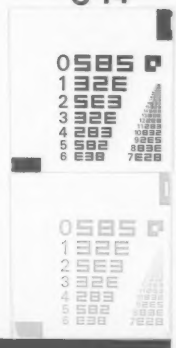
☐ Charge to my Deposit Account No. _____

MAIL ORDER FORM TO:
Superintendent of Documents
Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
STATISTICAL POLICY BRANCH
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
STATISTICAL POLICY BRANCH

C 14